REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, and 10 are rejected for anticipation by U.S. Patent No. 4,590,520 to Frame et al., "Frame" herein. These rejections are traversed.

Claim 1 requires that each pixel in an image correspond to a respective sensor in an array. Frame does not disclose such a correspondence. The Office Action asserts that Frame discloses this element, but it is not found in the passages of Frame cited in the rejection. In addition, Frame does not disclose that each sensor provides a respective signal. If the Examiner persists in this rejection, Applicants request that the passages that disclose these elements be pointed out with specificity. Otherwise, the rejection of Claim 1 should be withdrawn. Independent Claims 5 and 9 also require a correspondence between pixels and sensors that is not disclosed by Frame. Accordingly, the rejections of those claims for anticipation by Frame should be withdrawn.

Claim 2 further requires multiple pixels corresponding to each sensor. Contrary to the assertion in the Office Action, Frame does not disclose such a correspondence. Comparable limitations are found in Claims 6 and 10, so that the rejections of these claims for anticipation by Frame are further traversed for this reason.

Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, and 12 are rejected for obviousness in view of a combination of Frame and U.S. Patent No. 6,456,261 to Zhang et al., "Zhang" herein. These rejections assume that Frame discloses the correspondence between pixels and sensors required by the independent claims; since this correspondence is not disclosed by Frame, the obviousness rejections fail.
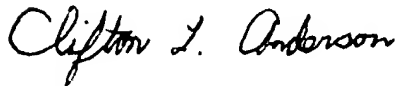
In addition, the Office Action proposes providing smaller solid-state electronics within the system and to provide a more robust system. However, the cited art does not teach that the size of the electronics in Frame is a problem and the cited art does not teach that the electronics in Frame would be any smaller is replaced by those disclosed by Zhang. To the contrary, Frame states that the dead-spot capability is achieved "by adding a few relatively simple components", Frame, Col. 6, lines 58-59). Modifying Frame in accordance with Zhang would require more complex components and a greater number of components. This would detract from the qualities taught by Frame to be desirable.

In addition, Claims 4, 8, and 12 require two-dimensional calibration values. Specifically, these claims require an offset value. The Office Action purports to find this limitation in Frame, Col. 7, lines 6-43. However, this passage only discloses a coefficient, not an offset value. Most of the cited passage relates to handling a non-correspondence between pixels and sensors and is irrelevant to the dimensionality of the calibration.

CONCLUSION

All the rejections erroneously assume Frame discloses a claimed correspondence between sensors and pixels. Since Frame does not disclose this limitation, all claims should be allowable. Furthermore, the obviousness rejections are based on a motivation not supported in the cited art. For specific claims, there are additional grounds for traversal. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

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